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10/527,287	03/08/2005	Klemens Breitfuss	AT02 0058 US	2726

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EXAMINER	
SYED, NABIL H	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2612	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
12/29/2010	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

ip.department.us@nxp.com

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/527,287	BREITFUSS ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	NABIL H. SYED	2612	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *12 September 2010*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1 and 3-23* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1 and 3-23* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. The following is a final office action in response to the amendments filed 9/12/10. Amendments received on 9/12/10 have been entered. As per applicant claim 2 has been cancelled. Accordingly claims 1 and 3-23 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -
>
> (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

3. Claims 1 and 3-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ooya et al. (7,187,692).

As of claim 1, Ooya discloses a method of inventorying data carriers by means of

a communication station (via a master station communicating data with slave stations; see abstract),

wherein communication station (via a master station 101; see fig. 2) and each data carrier (via a slave station 201; see fig. 2) are brought into communicative connection (see col. 3, lines 61-67; see fig. 2), and

wherein each data carrier brought into communicative connection with the communication station generates a response signal enabling the inventorying of the data carrier after at least one operational condition has been fulfilled (via slave station generating electromagnetic force using the antenna 209 to power the circuit in the slave station and generating a response signal; see col. 4, lines 3-7) and supplies response signal using a transmission start moment that can be chosen from a plurality of transmission start moments (via slave station comprising time number generation unit 207 to generate time slot numbers and time delay numbers which are used in transmitting the response signal to the master station; see col. 4, lines 27-43) that are defined from a carrier signal end moment that coincide with the end of a transmission of a carrier signal from communication station, and wherein each of the transmission start moments is defined only by a common selectable discrete time period and a number of waiting time periods from the carrier signal end moment, where the number of waiting time periods is defined from the end of the common selectable discrete time period (Note: from the figure 3 of Ooya it can be seen that Master station 101 transmits a signal 191 (carrier signal) to the slave stations (301, 401, 501, 601) and then there is time delay (a common selectable discrete time period) between the transmitted signal

191 and a first slot 1, which is interpreted by the Examiner as common discrete time period, this time delay can be selected by the person who programs the communication system of Ooya, so the transmission start moments is defined from the end of the carrier signal 191) and after that time period each slave station wait until their slot number and time delay number, which are interpreted by the Examiner as a number of waiting time period, to transmit its identification to the Master station; see fig. 3; also see col. 33-557) (Note: As it is seen in fig. 3, after receiving the ID request signal 191 there is a time delay between the first time slot and the received signal 191, hence this time delay can also be referred as common discrete delay period, since each data carrier has this delay before going to the next step which is to wait for their slot number and time delay number(number of waiting time periods), so the transmission from the slave station starts only by a common selectable time period (time period between the transmitted signal 191 and firs slot) and a number of waiting time periods (via slave station waiting for slot number and time delay) (see fig. 3; also see col. 4, lines 44-57). In order to further support the Examiner's assertion, Ooya discloses in fig. 1, that Master station 101 transmits a signal 911 (carrier signal) to the slave stations (902-905) and then there is time delay (a common selectable discrete time period) between the transmitted signal 191 and a first slot 1, which is interpreted by the Examiner as common discrete time period (see fig. 1), then all the slave station waits for their time slot numbers (a number of waiting time periods) before transmitting their data (see col. 1, lines 59-67), so the transmission start moments is defined only by a common selectable time period (time period between the transmitted signal 191 and firs slot) and

a number of waiting time periods (via slave station waiting for slot number; see fig. 1; also see col. 1, lines 59 through col. 2, lines 12).

wherein each data carrier is configured to test, before generating its response signal, whether another data carrier is transmitting its response signal and wherein each data carrier does not generate its response signal if another data carrier is already transmitting its response signal (via slave stations checking if other slave station is transmitting a response signal and refraining from transmitting a response if any other slave station is transmitting; see col. 4, lines 51-67).

As of claim 3, Ooya discloses a method wherein the response signal given is an identification signal (see col. 5, lines 23-26).

As of claim 4, Ooya discloses a method wherein the number of waiting periods is selected by a random principle (via generation of time numbers using a random number generation circuit; see col. 6, liens 62-65).

As of claim 5, Ooya discloses that the master station 101 uses the memory 015 and the control unit 102 to generate a request signal, and allow the modulation unit 103 to modulate the generated request signal by the Amplitude Shift Keying modulation 9see col. 3, lines 64-67). Ooys further discloses that the master station 101 transmits commands with the data to read/write from/to the tag (see col. 4, lines 18-24). So when the master station will transmits a modulated signal it will have to have a carrier signal and inventory command (read/write command).

As of claim 6, Ooya discloses a method wherein the number wherein the numbers of selectable transmission start moments is greater than the number of data

carriers (Note: Ooya discloses that the number of time slots and time delay can be freely selected, hence number of time slots and time delay can be greater than the slave station 201; see col. 8, lines 40-42).

As of claim 7, Ooya discloses a method wherein a data carrier that has given a response signal cart be sot to an idle station by the communication station, in which idle state no response signal is provided (via slave station not transmitting the response signal after transmitting the ID response signal to the master station; see col. 5, lines 39-42).

As of claim 8 and 12, all the definition explained in claim 1 above also applied to claims 8 and 12, and Ooya further discloses a data carrier (via a slave station 201, see fig. 2) which data carrier is designed for contactless communication with a communication station and which comprises an integrated circuit (Note: Ooya discloses that all the elements in slave station can be provided on a single chip; see col. 8, lines 43-50), which integrated circuit comprises the following means: response signal generation means for generating a response signal (via slave station 201 using the control unit 202 to generate a response signal to the master station 101; see col. 4, lines 22-23) start moment selection means by which a transmission start moment can be selected from a plurality of transmission start moments (via time number generation unit 207 allowing the control unit to generate time slot numbers and time delay numbers; see col. 4, lines 27-32), wherein each of the transmission start moments is defined only by a common selectable discrete time period and a number of waiting time periods from the predefined moment, where the number of waiting time periods is

defined from the end of the common selectable discrete time period (Note: from the figure 3 of Ooya it can be seen that Master station 101 transmits a signal 191 (carrier signal) to the slave stations (301, 401, 501, 601) and then there is time delay (a common selectable discrete time period) between the transmitted signal 191 and a first slot 1, which is interpreted by the Examiner as common discrete time period, this time delay can be selected by the person who programs the communication system of Ooya, so the transmission start moments is defined from the end of the carrier signal 191) and after that time period each slave station wait until their slot number and time delay number, which are interpreted by the Examiner as a number of waiting time period, to transmit its identification to the Master station; see fig. 3; also see col. 33-557) (Note: As it is seen in fig. 3, after receiving the ID request signal 191 there is a time delay between the first time slot and the received signal 191, hence this time delay can also be referred as common discrete delay period, since each data carrier has this delay before going to the next step which is to wait for their slot number and time delay number(number of waiting time periods), so the transmission of from the slave station starts only by a common selectable time period (time period between the transmitted signal 191 and firs slot) and a number of waiting time periods (via slave station waiting for slot number and time delay) (see fig. 3; also see col. 4, lines 44-57). In order to further support the Examiner's assertion, Ooya discloses in fig. 1, that Master station 101 transmits a signal 911 (carrier signal) to the slave stations (902-905) and then there is time delay (a common selectable discrete time period) between the transmitted signal 191 and a first slot 1, which is interpreted by the Examiner as common discrete time period (see fig. 1),

then all the slave station waits for their time slot numbers (a number of waiting time periods) before transmitting their data (see col. 1, lines 59-67), so the transmission start moments is defined only by a common selectable time period (time period between the transmitted signal 191 and firs slot) and a number of waiting time periods (via slave station waiting for slot number; see fig. 1; also see col. 1, lines 59 through col. 2, lines 12).

response signal recognition means designed for recognizing a response signal given by another data carrier (via slave stations having level comparators 210 which judges whether the detected signal is from the another slave station; see col. 7, lines 43-59; also see fig. 7) and for generating and delivering a response signal recognition signal and wherein delivery decision means are provided which release or block a delivery of the response signal in dependence on the response signal recognition signal and the transmission start moment (via slave station not transmitting the response signal if the other slave station is transmitting; see col. 4, lines 59-67 and col. 7, lines 60-67). Oodya further discloses that all the circuit elements in each slave station may be provided on a single IC chip (an integrated circuit) (see col. 8, lines 43-50).

As of claim 9 and 13, Ooya discloses a data carrier (via a slave station 201) wherein the response signal generation means are formed by identification signal generation means (via slave station transmitting the ID response signal to the master station 101; see col. 5, lines 23-26).

As of claim 10 and 14, Ooya discloses a data carrier (via a slave station 201) wherein the response signal recognition means are designed for recognizing a carrier

signal (via the slave station 201 receiving the modulated signal from the master station; see col. 4, lines 10-14).

As of claim 11 and 15, Ooya discloses wherein the response signal recognition means are designed for rccogni2ing a modulated carrier signal and for this purpose comprise demodulation means which are designed for demodulating a modulated carrier signal (via the slave station 201 comprising a demodulation unit 204 to demodulate the modulated signal received from the master station 101; see col. 4, lines 15-19; also see fig. 2).

As of claim 16, all the definition explained in claim 1 above also apply to claim 16 and Ooya further discloses a method of inventorying data carrier which method comprising the following steps:

choosing from a plurality of transmission start moments that are defined from a predefined moment , transmission start moment for starting a transmission of a carrier signal for the purpose of supplying data to a communication station during the transmission of carrier signal wherein the data enable the inventory of the data carrier (via the slave station 201 generating the time slot number and time delay using the time number generation unit 207 before transmitting the ID response signal back to the master station; see col. 6, lines 12-14), wherein each of the transmission start moments is defined only by a common selectable discrete time period and a number of waiting time periods from the predefined moment, where the number of waiting time periods is defined from the end of the common selectable discrete time period (Note: from the figure 3 of Ooya it can be seen that Master station 101 transmits a signal 191 (carrier

signal) to the slave stations (301, 401, 501, 601) and then there is time delay (a common selectable discrete time period) between the transmitted signal 191 and a first slot 1, which is interpreted by the Examiner as common discrete time period, this time delay can be selected by the person who programs the communication system of Ooya, so the transmission start moments is defined from the end of the carrier signal 191) and after that time period each slave station wait until their slot number and time delay number, which are interpreted by the Examiner as a number of waiting time period, to transmit its identification to the Master station; see fig. 3; also see col. 33-557) (Note: As it is seen in fig. 3, after receiving the ID request signal 191 there is a time delay between the first time slot and the received signal 191, hence this time delay can also be referred as common discrete delay period, since each data carrier has this delay before going to the next step which is to wait for their slot number and time delay number(number of waiting time periods), so the transmission of from the slave station starts only by a common selectable time period (time period between the transmitted signal 191 and firs slot) and a number of waiting time periods (via slave station waiting for slot number and time delay) (see fig. 3; also see col. 4, lines 44-57). In order to further support the Examiner's assertion, Ooya discloses in fig. 1, that Master station 101 transmits a signal 911 (carrier signal) to the slave stations (902-905) and then there is time delay (a common selectable discrete time period) between the transmitted signal 191 and a first slot 1, which is interpreted by the Examiner as common discrete time period (see fig. 1), then all the slave station waits for their time slot numbers (a number of waiting time periods) before transmitting their data (see col. 1, lines 59-67), so the transmission start

moments is defined only by a common selectable time period (time period between the transmitted signal 191 and firs slot) and a number of waiting time periods (via slave station waiting for slot number; see fig. 1; also see col. 1, lines 59 through col. 2, lines 12), and

testing whether another data carrier is already transmitting a carrier signal after predefined time and prior to chosen transmission start moment, and inhibiting the starting of said transmission of said carrier signal at chosen transmission start moment if the result of testing is positive (via the data detection unit 208 detecting if another slave station is transmitting the ID response signal and inhibiting the transmission if the there is another slave station transmitting the ID response signal; see col. 7, lines 9-15; also see fig. 7).

As of claim 17, Ooya discloses a method comprising: starting the transmission of carrier signal at the chosen transmission start moment if result of testing is negative (via the control unit 202 transmitting the ID response signal if no other slave station is transmitting the response signal; see col. 7, lines 16-21).

As of claim 18, Ooya discloses that the slave station transmits the modulated signal back to the master station. Even thought not explicitly said but the slave station of Ooya has to take into account transient phenomena because of the time it takes for the electrical components like of modulation, demodulation and control circuits to move when the voltage is applied to them and there natural switching behavior.

As of claim 19, Ooya discloses a method wherein the transmission start moment is selected by a random principle (via generation of time numbers using a random number generation circuit; see col. 6, liens 62-65).

As of claim 20, Ooya discloses a method wherein the number wherein the numbers of selectable transmission start moments is greater than the number of data carriers (Note: Ooya discloses that the number of time slots and time delay can be freely selected, hence number of time slots and time delay can be greater than the slave station 201; see col. 8, lines 40-42).

As of claim 21, Ooya discloses that the master station 101 uses the memory 015 and the control unit 102 to generate a request signal, and allow the modulation unit 103 to modulate the generated request signal by the Amplitude Shift Keying modulation 9see col. 3, lines 64-67). Ooys further discloses that the master station 101 transmits commands with the data to read/write from/to the tag (see col. 4, lines 18-24). So when the master station will transmits a modulated signal it will have to have a carrier signal and inventory command (read/write command)

As of claim 22, Ooya discloses a method wherein the selected transmission start moment is shifted in time by a selectable discrete delay period with respect to a command signal end of a command signal given by the communication station (via time number generation unit generating time delay in each time slot; see col. 4, lines 33-43).

As of claim 23, Ooya discloses a method wherein a data carrier that has given a response signal cart be sot to an idle station by the communication station, in which idle state no response signal is provided (via slave station not transmitting the response

signal after transmitting the ID response signal to the master station; see col. 5, lines39-42).

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 3/23/09 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

As of claim 1, 8, 12 and 16 applicant argues that Ooya does not disclose "wherein each data carrier is configured to ***test***, before generating its response signal, whether another data carrier is transmitting its response signal and wherein each data carrier does not generate its response signal if another data carrier is already transmitting its response signal". The Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Applicant admits that the slave station (data carrier) of Ooya includes the process of refraining from transmitting the response signal if another slave station is already transmitting a response signal (see remarks page 10, lines 9-11). Ooya discloses that the slave station exercise a control so that when one of the slave detects that another of the slave station is transmitting an ID response signal the slave station refrains from transmitting an ID response signal (see col. 4, lines 59-67). Ooya further discloses that the slave station C501 and D601 do not transmit the ID response signal since the data transmission detection units 208 of the slave stations C501 and slave station D601 detect transmission of the ID response signal by the slave station B 401 9see fig. 3). So based on this description of Ooya it can be seen whenever slave stations is about to begin transmitting its ID response signal it will check first if there is another slave station transmitting, which can be interpreted as performing a test, to determine whether

another slave station is transmitting a response signal (see fig. 3, slave stations 401, 501 and 601).

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to NABIL H. SYED whose telephone number is (571)270-3028. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-5:00 alt Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Zimmerman can be reached on (571)272-3059. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/NABIL H SYED/
Examiner
Art Unit 2612

N.S

/Brian A Zimmerman/
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